

What is claimed is:

- 1. A method for monitoring a vehicle, comprising
 the steps of:
- i) generating a data packet from the vehicle using a wireless appliance, the data packet comprising numerical diagnostic data from a computer in the vehicle;
- ii) transmitting the data packet over an airlink with the wireless appliance so that the data packet passes through a network and to a host computer system;
- iii) processing the data packet with the host computer system to generate numerical diagnostic data; and
- iv) displaying the numerical diagnostic data on a web site hosted on the internet, the web site comprising a series of pages corresponding to individual vehicles and a series of pages corresponding to a group of vehicles.
- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the processing step further includes extracting at least one of the following vehicle parameters from the data packet: numerical data, an alphanumeric text message, an active or pending diagnostic trouble code, a vehicle identification number.

- 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the processing step further includes processing at least one of the vehicle parameters with a database software.
- 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the processing step further includes generating a set of data that comprises an alphanumeric text message.
- 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the displaying step further comprises displaying the alphanumeric text message on the web page.
- 6. The method of claim 4, wherein the method further includes the step of sending an electronic mail message that comprises all or part of the alphanumeric text message.
- 7. The method of claim 4, wherein the vehicle parameter is an active or pending diagnostic trouble code, and the alphanumeric text message describes the active or pending diagnostic trouble code.

- 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the alphanumeric text message comprises a 5, 6, or 7-digit code that describes the active or pending diagnostic trouble code.
- 9. The method of claim 4, wherein the numerical data generated by the vehicle comprises one of the following: numerical data generated by a sensor in the vehicle, numerical data generated by a computer within the vehicle.
- 10. The method of claim 9, wherein the numerical data includes at least one of the following numerical parameters: diagnostic trouble codes, vehicle speed, fuel level, fuel pressure, miles per gallon, engine RPM, mileage, oil pressure, oil temperature, tire pressure, tire temperature, engine coolant temperature, intake-manifold pressure, engine-performance tuning parameters, alarm status, accelerometer status, cruise-control status, fuel-injector performance, spark-plug timing, and a status of an anti-lock braking system.
- 11. The method of claim 9, wherein the processing step further comprises processing at least one numerical parameter from the numerical data with a mathematical algorithm.

- 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the processing step further comprises comparing at least one numerical parameter with at least one numerical parameter generated at an earlier point in time.
- 13. The method of claim 12, wherein the displaying step further comprises displaying at least one numerical parameter and at least one numerical parameter generated at an earlier point in time.
- 14. The method of claim 11, wherein the processing step further comprises comparing at least one numerical parameter with at least one predetermined numerical value.
- 15. The method of claim 14, wherein the displaying step further comprises displaying at least one numerical parameter and at least one predetermined numerical value.
- 16. The method of claim 14, wherein the predetermined numerical value comprises a mileage value.

- 17. The method of claim 9, wherein the alphanumeric text message includes at least one parameter from the numerical data.
- 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the displaying step further comprises displaying the alphanumeric text message on the web page.
- 19. The method of claim 18, wherein the method further comprises sending an electronic mail message that comprises the alphanumeric text message.
- 20. A method for monitoring a set of vehicles, comprising the steps of:
- i) generating a first data packet from a first vehicle in the set of vehicles using a first wireless appliance disposed in the first vehicle, the first data packet comprising numerical diagnostic data from a computer in the first vehicle;
- ii) transmitting the first data packet over an airlink with the first wireless appliance so that the first data packet passes through a network and to a host computer system;

- iii) generating a second data packet from a second vehicle in the set of vehicles using a second wireless appliance disposed in the second vehicle, the second data packet comprising numerical diagnostic data from a computer in the second vehicle;
- iv) transmitting the second data packet over an
 airlink with the wireless appliance so that the second data
 packet passes through the network and to the host computer
 system;
- v) processing the first and second data packets with the host computer system to generate numerical diagnostic data corresponding to the first and second vehicles;
- vi) displaying the numerical diagnostic data corresponding to the first vehicle on a first series of web pages hosted on the internet; and
- vii) displaying the numerical diagnostic data corresponding to the first and second vehicles on a second series of web pages hosted on the internet, the first and second series of web pages being comprised by a single web site.
- 21. The method of claim 20, wherein the processing step further includes extracting at least one of the following vehicle parameters from the first and second data

packets: numerical data, an alphanumeric text message, an active or pending diagnostic trouble code, a vehicle identification number.

- 22. The method of claim 21, wherein the processing step further includes processing at least one of the vehicle parameters with a database software.
- 23. The method of claim 22, wherein the processing step further includes generating a first set of data that comprises an alphanumeric text message.
- 24. The method of claim 23, wherein the displaying step further comprises displaying the alphanumeric text message on the first web site.
- 25. The method of claim 23, further comprising the step of sending an electronic mail message that comprises the alphanumeric text message.
- 26. The method of claim 20, wherein a single web site comprises the first and second web pages.

- 27. The method of claim 26, wherein the web site comprises a login web page that comprises fields for entering a user name and a password.
- 28. The method of claim 27, wherein the web site communicates with a database that associates a first user name with a first password, and a second user name with a second password.
- 29. The method of claim 28, wherein the first user name corresponds to a vehicle owner, and the second user name corresponds to a corporate organization.
- 30. The method of claim 29, wherein the corporate organization is a vehicle dealership, a vehicle-rental organization, an insurance organization, or an organization comprising a fleet of vehicles.